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COUNTRY: Sudan/Nyasaland

SUBJECT: Plans for Highway Construction

Pages: 1

PLACE ACQUIRED: ~~25X1A6a~~*28 Jan 54*DATE ACQUIRED: ~~[REDACTED]~~

DATE OF INFO: 1 Jan 54 and earlier

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1. New public works costing US\$95 million over a five-year period are being planned by the Sudan government. This is the Sudan's second development program, following the 1946-51 plan of new capital works for which US\$38,500,000 was allotted. Expenditures for roads and road machinery under the new five-year scheme are expected to amount to US\$8,325,000, including the purchase of plant and machinery for economical road construction by modern methods.
2. According to present plans, the US\$95 million will be distributed as follows: communications, US\$26 million; productive schemes, US\$22 million; public utilities US\$14.5 million; social services, US\$19 million; administration, US\$11.5 million, and reserves, US\$2 million.
3. The interim Federal Cabinet has approved a proposal that Nyasaland be permitted to incur expenditures in advance of raising a loan on several federal works projects estimated to cost US\$7 million. Included are provisions for improvement of the Lilongwe-Salima and Mlange-Portuguese border roads.
4. The last section of the new bituminized road from Zomba to Limbe has been opened. This is the first major engineering contract completed in the protectorate. Some 128 km of roadway have been built from Blantyre and Limbe to Chileka, Luchenza and Zomba at a cost of approximately US\$3 million. A road from Luchenza to Mlange is under construction and it is hoped shortly to extend it to the Portuguese border. When completed, all highways carrying the heaviest volume of traffic in the protectorate will be tarmac surfaced.

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